

Marquette Deer & Game Cutters

Custom Cuts & Smokehouse Sausages

1450 East M-28
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 362-3369

April 20, 2011

Representative **Kate Segal**

P.O. Box 30014

Lansing, MI 48909

RE: I Support Legislative Bills HB 4503 through HB 4506

Dear Representative **Kate Segal**:

Marquette Deer & Game Cutters provides butchering services for wild game and the wild boar livestock that hunters shoot at Bear Mountain Lodge.

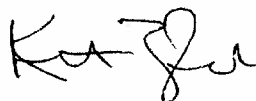
Hunters come from different states from all over the country, Wyoming, Washington, and Connecticut including nearby states of Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota. These hunters have become my customers. I need this business to keep my workers with jobs.

Bear Mountain Lodge brings needed money into Michigan and those hunters spend good money on having their animals butchered in Michigan. Times are tough and we need to keep jobs Here!

Bills HB 4503 through HB 4506 are a good way to support Michigan. This legislation will properly regulate the boar hunting businesses in Michigan and protect our jobs.

I want to keep all my employees working. The Passage of Bills HB 4503 through HB 4506 will keep needed jobs in Michigan and I will be able to keep my workers with jobs.

Sincerely,



Kurt Zinski

Owner

Marquette Deer & Game Cutters

(906) 362-3369

Vote Yes for the Bills HB 4503 through HB 4506



802 S. LAKE STREET
P.O. BOX 308
MARQUETTE MI 49855
906/228-7450
FAX 906/228-3188
1-800-894-0088

April 19, 2011

Representative Ed Mcbroom
Michigan House of Representatives
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Representative Ed McBroom,

Please consider this letter of support for the passage of House Bills 4503-4506. This to me is very important legislation and will have great economic impact.

Here in the U.P., we have several enclosed properties that feature trophy class hunting. The operation that I'm most familiar with is Bear Mountain Lodge, owned and operated by Greg Johnson.

I have personally visited the lodge several times and have been totally impressed with Greg's attention to detail. The entire property is enclosed with a woven steel fence, plus, there is some type of electrical barrier to keep the animals away from the fence.

Greg certainly has a tremendous investment and an equally successful operation. His business is visionary and of course, has a sizable economic impact in this chronically depressed area. An old abandoned mine property is now a money making enterprise that is important to our community.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas E. Dubow
President
Lake Superior Press

TRIPLE 7 TAXIDERMY

Michigan Licensed Taxidermist

Mike Drexler
77 Krooks Rd.
Negaunee, MI 49866

April 21, 2011

Representative Ed McBroom
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

RE: Legislative Solution Bills HB 4503 through HB 4506 - Support

Dear Representative Ed McBroom:

Taxidermist Shops are closing in Marquette Michigan. Another long term local taxidermy shop closed this year. We need jobs and business in Michigan.

Triple 7 Taxidermy provides world class taxidermy services for the boars come that from Bear Mountain Lodge.

I have done taxidermy services for clients that have come from as far away as Australia. This hunter came all the way across the globe to hunt the boar at Bear Mountain.

These customers come from all over the United States. I do the taxidermy in my shop located in Negaunee, Michigan and ship the finish artwork across the country.

Many of these hunters have become my long-term customers and will now ship work to me from other parts of the country. I need this business to keep my workers with jobs.

Bear Mountain Lodge brings needed money into Michigan and those hunters spend their hard earned money here in Michigan

I urge you to support Bills HB 4503 through HB 4506. This legislation is what is needed to regulate the boar hunting businesses in Michigan and keep jobs here at home.

The Passage of Bills HB 4503 through HB 4506 will keep needed jobs in Michigan and I will be able to keep my workers with jobs. Businesses are still closing in Michigan. I want to keep all my workers and my business running.

Sincerely,

Mike Drexler
Owner
Triple 7 Taxidermy



Your passage of this legislation is needed to keep jobs in Michigan.

TERRY JUTILA

190 High Point Court, Marquette MI 49855

April 20, 2011

Rep. Ed McBroom
P. O. Box 30014
Lansing MI 48909

RE: Support of Regulating the Hunting Estates in Michigan

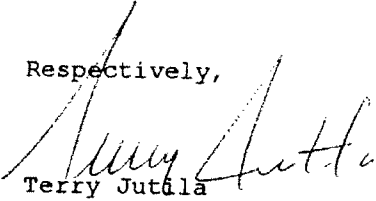
Dear Representatives,

I am writing to urge you to support Bills HB 4503 through 4506 which will properly regulate the boar hunting industry and effectively address the concerns of all parties.

I am a banker in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and witness every day the need for continuing employment opportunities for our citizens.

Passage of Bills HB 4503 through HB 4506 will keep needed jobs in Michigan.

Respectively,


Terry Jutala

April 19, 2011

Representative Ben Glardon
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

RE: Jobs in Michigan - Support Bills HB 4503 through HB 4506

Dear Representative Glardon:

I live next door to Bear Mountain lodge at 292 County Road 480. My property line is right next to Bear Mountain's property.

I was born and raised in Michigan and am 72 years old.

I watched the place being built in the summer of 2002 and it is an impressive hunting preserve.

The fencing system, both the electrical fence and the steel containment fence are effective at keeping the animals inside the hunting grounds.

I have never seen or have heard of a boar getting out.

I know this as I live next door and I keep a sharp eye out for any problems.

I have met hunters that have come from all over the country, (California, Texas, Alabama, Virginia, Maryland, Oregon and Florida), and they also come from the cities in the Midwestern states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio) and they spend lots of money and come back with their family and friends.

These hunters are good people and this is a good business.

Sincerely,



Fred Melka
(906) 475-7675

Post Script: We need jobs in Michigan, the economy is bad, don't shut down good businesses. You should support and vote yes for House Bills HB 4503 through HB 4506

Joseph P. O'Leary
Baraga County Prosecuting Attorney



County Courthouse Annex
12 N Third Street ♦ L'Anse, Michigan 49946
(906) 524-5440 ♦ Fax (906) 524-5832

June 15, 2007

Martin Al Rodriquez, Compliance Manager
Animal Industry Division
Michigan Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 30017
Lansing, MI 48909

Re: Feral swine

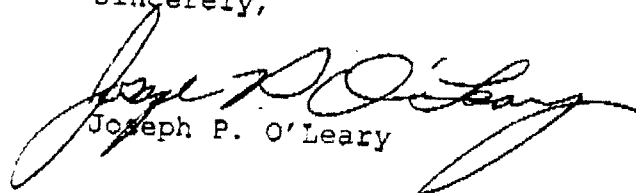
Dear Mr. Rodriquez,

Having reviewed your June 11, 2007 letter informing me of the "emerging animal issue" of feral swine it was difficult not to be offended. However, I do understand that in Lansing administrations change and institutional memories fade quickly. I also understand that the experience and concerns of citizens residing in the Upper Peninsula are seldom taken seriously. For that reason I will withhold my anger. Nonetheless, I simply could not resist responding to your request that I help you "effectively eliminate feral swine".

Attached is correspondence between myself and the Department of Agriculture. As you can see, I was first confronted with this "emerging animal issue" five years ago. Despite numerous warnings and repeated requests for assistance, Baraga County received no help from the Department of Agriculture (MDA), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), or any other state agency. Indeed, no state agency so much as acknowledged that a problem existed which merited its attention. Of course, now that the problem has festered and presents statewide health, safety and environmental issues the MDA and DNR at last recognize the true nature of the very threat I brought to their attention in 2002. Good actions come better late than never.

In case anyone is interested, we have already eliminated feral swine in Baraga County, without any assistance from Lansing. The last reported sighting of these creatures was in November of 2002. If I can be of assistance in MDA's effort to address this "emerging issue" I will be glad to help. You may rest assured that I will not treat you in the same dismissive manner I was treated 5 years ago.

Sincerely,

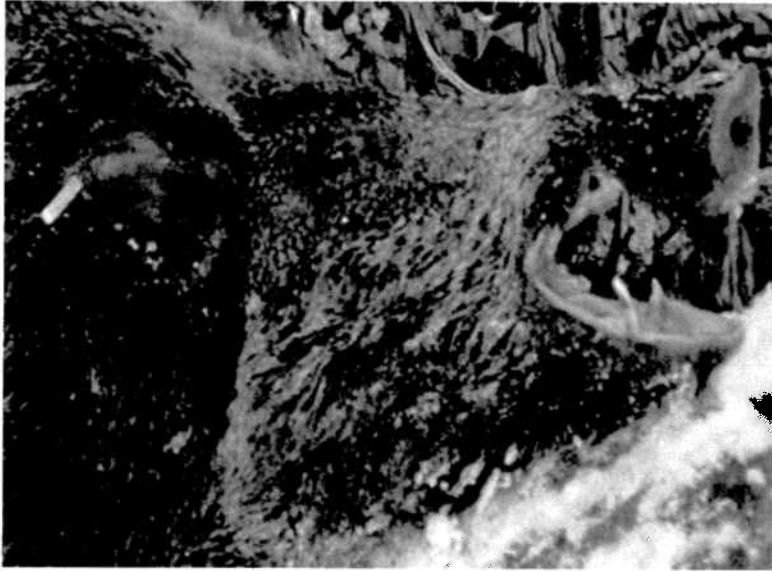


Joseph P. O'Leary

cc: Kim Eddie, PAAM
Liesl Clark, MDA
Steve Halstead, MDA

Record Keeping for Importation of Livestock into Michigan

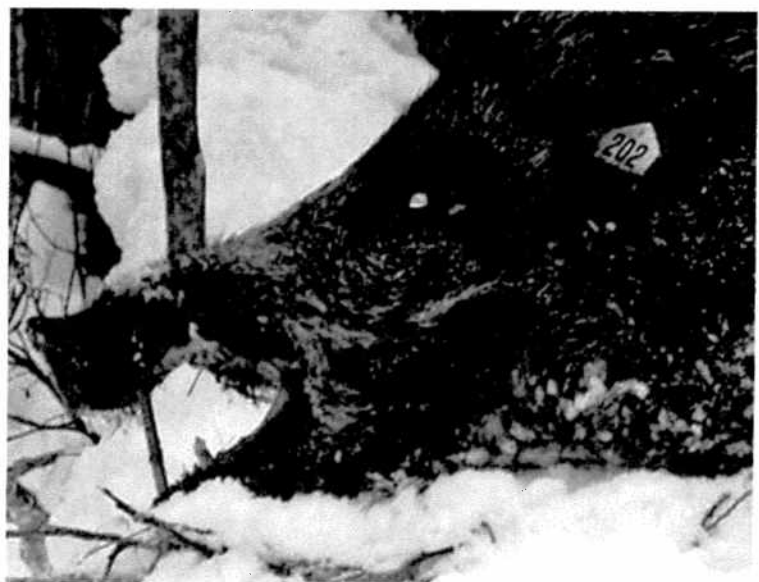
USDA Protocol - Each swine contains two different ear tags. One metal tag for individual identification and one plastic tag for proof of Disease Testing is installed. All swine are inspected at their origin by a Veterinarian. See attached process list.



Silver Metal Tag for Individual Identification



Silver Metal Tag for Individual Identification



USDA – Protocol Plastic Ear Tags are installed during the sample collection protocol for Blood Testing

Swine are inspected by a USDA Veterinarian prior to importation. The Veterinarian cross checks the metal identification tags and the plastic disease testing tags with the accompany manifest and documentation.

Note: This process is strictly enforced at the United States Border.



Man claims ownership of hogs that were shot

by Brian McVicar | The Muskegon Chronicle

Thursday April 30, 2009, 12:21

Chronicle photo|Darren BreenMuskegon Chronicle employee Jim Boes shot four feral hogs near his Dalton Township home, including a 514-pound female. Now a Muskegon man is claiming the pigs were his and he wants the meat

Bob Teddy
SHERIFF

Rick Johnson
UNDERSHERIFF



Baraga County Sheriff

P.O. Box 307 • 940 U.S. 41
L'Anse, Michigan 49946
(906) 524-6177
FAX (906) 524-5577

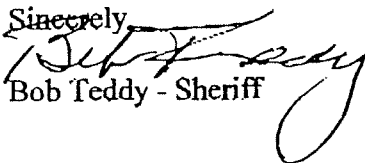
March 1, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my understanding that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources feels that Baraga County has a feral pig (wild boars) problem. Being in law enforcement in Baraga County for the past 35 years, 23 of which as Sheriff, I experience only one incident with feral pigs

. The incident occurred in the summer of '06, several wild boars escaped from a game farm located in a remote area of the county. Local hunters quickly alleviated the problem. If you any question s or concerns feel free to contact me.

Sincerely



Bob Teddy - Sheriff

To Protect and Serve



Brian J. McLean
Sheriff

Houghton County
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

403 E. Houghton Ave. • Houghton, Michigan 49931
Phone: (906) 482-0055 • Fax: (906) 487-5949

e-mail: sheriff@houghtonsheriff.com
website: www.houghtonsheriff.com



Roy A. Britz
Undersheriff
911 Coordinator

March 3, 2011

To Whom It May Concern;

Houghton County is not experiencing any problems with feral hogs. We have had no complaints reported to this office.

Sincerely,

Brian J. McLean

Sheriff

up.net

All the right connections - for you!

Brenda Turunen <bstg@up.net>

Fwd: Feral Swine

1 message

Tue, Mar 29, 2011 at 8:42 PM

Jeff DeBacker <jdebacker@pasty.net>
To: Brenda Turunen <bstg@up.net>, Gregory Johnson <GAJ@up.net>

Hi,
Here is the note from Sheriff Ballweg. Let me know when you receive this.
Thank you,
Jeff

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Gary Ballweg** <gballweg@deltacountymi.org>
Date: Tue, Mar 29, 2011 at 1:51 PM
Subject: RE: Feral Swine
To: Jeff DeBacker <jdebacker@pasty.net>

Mr. DeBacker: You contacted me earlier and asked that I research the frequency of complaints or information received at the Delta County Sheriff Department pertaining to feral swine.

Let me start off with the fact that we can not search records for such an item. I have been here at the Sheriff Department for 34 years. I also asked other staff here and Animal Control Officer Ed Olson who has been in that position for more than 20 years.

About 4 or 5 years ago we had calls on one or two pigs that had gotten away from a farmer east of Perkins, MI. While that farmer denied they were his pigs, we knew that they were. At least one pig was loose for more than a year. During that time we received 2 or 3 calls on the same pig or pigs. The Sheriff Department has had no other calls or information regarding feral pigs, wild swine or loose pigs.

As a side note: We have had more incidents (several) over the years about wild cattle. Some of these cows remained loose for 2-3 years.

Delta County Sheriff Gary Ballweg (906) 786-3633

<https://mail.google.com/a/up.net/?ui=2&ik=514613b729&view=pt&search=inbox&th=12f04361f...> 3/30/2011

up.net

All the right connections - for you!

Brenda Turunen <bstg@up.net>

Fwd: Zero Complaints to Law Enforcement regarding Wild Boars at Large.

1 message

Jeff DeBacker <jdebacker@pasty.net>

Tue, Mar 29, 2011 at 8:44 PM

To: Brenda Turunen <bstg@up.net>, Gregory Johnson <GAJ@up.net>

Hi,
This is the letter from Sheriff Lovelace in Marquette county. Let me know when we receive this also.
Thank you,
Jeff

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michael Lovelace** <Mlovelace@mqctcty.org>

Date: Tue, Mar 29, 2011 at 3:00 PM

Subject: Zero Complaints to Law Enforcement regarding Wild Boars at Large.

To: Jdebacker@pasty.net

Hi Jeff,

This is just a quick note to let you know that we have had ZERO Complaints regarding Wild Boars at Large during the past year. In fact, I can't remember having a single, solitary report of a Wild Boar at Large since I have been Sheriff of Marquette County, and that's 15 years. I would suggest you also contact the Michigan State Police as they are the only other Jurisdiction that would also service your area of the County.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of service to you again. I can be reached during normal business hours at 906-225-8437, after hours, weekends and holidays at 905-485-4269 and any other time on my mobile phone at 906-458-8882.

Happy to be of service to you,

Mike

Sheriff Michael H. Lovelace
Marquette County Sheriffs' Office
236 W. Baraga Ave.
Marquette, MI 49855
906-225-8437
mlovelace@mqctcty.org



United States
Department of
Agriculture

March 30, 2011

Farm and Foreign
Agricultural
Services

To whom it may concern:

We have heard of no Feral Pig problems in the Western UP.

Farm Service Agency Thank You

Baraga Area FSA
Service Center
P.O. Box 820
Baraga, MI 49908

Phone:
906-353-8225

FAX:
906-353-8231



An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



MARK VALESANO, SHERIFF
County of Iron - Office of the Sheriff
Courthouse – 2 South Sixth Street – Suite 18
Crystal Falls, Michigan 49920-1413
Telephone: (906) 875-0650 • Fax: (906) 875-6370

03/03/2011

Re: Russian Bores / Pigs at Large

To whom it may Concern,

I was recently contacted by Mr. Roger Turunen of Pelkey, MI regarding an issue concerning the raising of bores / pigs. Mr. Turunen asked if the Iron County Sheriff's Office had ever received any complaints of pigs being loose in Iron County. I advised him that I had no memory of any problems involving loose pigs. In checking with staff no one had any knowledge of this Office ever taking any type of a complaint involving pigs at large.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Mark Valesano
Iron County Sheriff's Office



KEWEENAW COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



5105 4th STREET - EAGLE RIVER, MI 49950
PHONE: (906) 337-0528 FAX: (906) 337-4278
E-MAIL: ksheriff@pasty.net

ALD J. LAHTI - SHERIFF

RICHARD R. OLSON - UNDERSHERIFF/JAIL ADMINISTRATOR

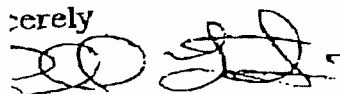
30-2011

Feral Pigs

Whom It May Concern

his Letter is to Advise that the Keweenaw County Sheriff's office has never experienced any
: of a problem with wild pigs. I have been associated with the sheriff's office for the past 31
s and sheriff for the past 19 with no complaints involving these animals.

Sincerely



Ald Lahti Sheriff



John Gravier
Sheriff

Dale Rantala
Undersheriff

OFFICE OF SHERIFF ONTONAGON COUNTY

620 CONGLOMERATE STREET, ONTONAGON, MI 49953
PHONE (906) 884-4901 • FAX (906) 884-4880
onsh@ontonagoncounty.org

March 30, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

We have had no complaints pertaining to feral hog in Ontonagon County. Nor have we had any problems.

We have in the past had problems with farm pigs damaging yards of their neighbors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Gravier".

John Gravier
Sheriff

Fwd: Hogs

message

Jeff DeBacker <jdebacker@pasty.net>

Wed, Mar 30, 2011 at 8:49 PM

To: Brenda Turunen <bstg@up.net>, Gregory Johnson <GAJ@up.net>

I have two more coming from Alger and Menominee counties and will forward those when I receive them as well.

Thank you,

Jeff

There are no reported complaints of feral hogs in Schoolcraft County. In fact, we have not had any complaints involving hogs.

Grant

"You cannot escape the responsibilities of tomorrow by evading them today." - Abraham Lincoln

Grant S. Harris, Sheriff
Schoolcraft County Sheriff's Office
300 Main Street
Manistique, MI 49854

Telephone: 906-341-2122
Fax: 906-341-6154

Think before you print

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and thus protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer. Thank you.

NHWD 000000
15975 HAMAR RD
BARAGA MI 49908
906-353-7580

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, I HAVE WORKED
IN THE WEST U.P. SINCE 1995. IN ALL MY TRAVELS
I HAVE NEVER FOUND ANY WILD PIGS OR SWINE.
OR FOUND ANY SIGN OF SUCH.

Brad Shuman

10-13-2008

BRAD is a DNR Wildlife
Biologist - WORKS OUT OF
BARAGA MI OFFICE

475-9678

September 7, 2010

To: J. R. Richardson
From: Ottawa Sportsmen's Club
Subj.: Feral Swine and Russian Wild Boar in Michigan

CC: Erin McDonough, Mucc

At a regular membership meeting of the Ottawa Sportsmen's Club held September 6, 2010 the following position was adopted regarding the issues of feral swine (domestic swine gone wild) and Russian Wild Boar in Michigan. The position passed unanimously.

1. We strongly support the present statewide policy that allows legally shooting either entity on private land by the landowner or guest at any time and on public land by anyone holding a current Michigan hunting license.

We would also recommend and encourage expanding policy to include strong penalties to any individual or group that would knowingly release Russian wild boar on any private lands without suitable enclosure or releasing on public lands at any time.

2. We do not support a broad-brush listing of both entities as invasive species. We feel it is erroneous to apply the term "invasive species" to domestic swine gone wild and such application could possibly result in unintended consequences in the future.

3. We believe the feral swine issue is a subject not related to the Russian wild boar issue and combining the two unfairly penalizes responsible operators raising wild boar.

4. Michigan farmers currently raising Russian wild boar for sale to game farms for hunting and to the meat industry for consumption, both in Michigan and throughout the nation, have recently formed an Association to aid in standardizing their operations. This group is the Michigan Animal Raisers Association.

We would encourage allowing this Association, along with the Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources and Environment and the Michigan Dept. Of Agriculture, to develop policies of self-regulation and operating standards to govern their enterprise. There are a number of precedents for this in Michigan. A good example would be in the Forest Industry where industry and government worked together to develop Best Management Practices for Water Quality and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, both very successful and worthwhile efforts.

Compiled by Russ Weisinger, Secretary
CC: John Stenvig, President; Jack Lehto, MUCC Board of Directors

1. WHEREAS; feral swine have been determined, by the State of Michigan, to be a
2. threat to natural resources; AND
3. WHEREAS; feral swine, which are the cause of concern, include both
4. domesticated swine (pigs) of the breeds traditionally raised by pork producers for the
5. consumer market, and the Russian Wild Boar which is primarily raised by farmers
6. who provide stock for hunting preserves, as well as a mixed breed of the two; AND
7. WHEREAS; Michigan United Conservation Clubs has participated in a group which
8. has developed a list of recommendations for producers and farmers to assist in
9. writing legislation and regulations to assure that producers and game farms are
10. properly managed to prevent future escapes of swine to add to the feral population;
11. AND
12. WHEREAS; legislation and regulation must be completed before July 8, 2011 or
13. Russian Wild Boar will be designated as an invasive species and will effectively
14. shut down all facilities raising and stocking these animals; AND
15. WHEREAS; legislation is now being written to develop regulation of this farming
16. industry; NOW THEREFORE;
17. BE IT RESOLVED; that Michigan United Conservation Clubs, in all
18. communications, advocate the proper use of the term "feral swine" rather
19. than use the term "Russian Wild Boar", when "feral swine" is the proper
20. terminology.

OTTAWA SPORTSMEN'S CLUB February 7, 2011

DATE: 042211

TO: MI. STATE

REF: "FERAL PIGS"

WRITTEN FOR: ROGER TURNER

I SHOULD START OUT BY STATING THAT I ALSO RAISE THE STRAIN OF PIG THAT IS CLASSED AS A "RUSSIAN BOAR". APPROX: 4 OF THEM PER YEAR FOR MY OWN CONSUMPTION AND THEY ARE PURCHASED FROM MR. TURNER. THESE ARE NOT "FERAL" AS THEY ARE NOT A DOMESTIC BREED THAT HAS GONE "WILD" BY BEING LOOSED TO FEED FOR THEMSELVES. PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS ARE VASTLY DIFFERANT BETWEEN THE TWO BREEDS.

I SHOULD ALSO STATE MY BACKGROUND. I WAS A POLICE OFFICE FOR 32 YRS IN THE COUNTIES OF MUSKELGON & 27 YRS WITH OTTAWA CO. SHERIFF. I ALSO DID WILDLIFE RECOVERY & REHAB. FOR THIS STATE FOR MANY YEARS. MOST OF THESE YEARS WERE SPENT WORKING VERY CLOSELY WITH THE MI. DNR. DURING THIS TIME I HANDLED HUNDREDS OF CALLS & COMPLAINTS IN REF. TO "STRANGE" ANIMALS BEING OBSERVED BY THE PUBLIC. THESE WOULD BE A FOR SURE SIGHTING, BY REPUTABLE PEOPLE OF "BLACK PANTHERS", "WOLVES", "COUGARS", "TIGERS" AND OTHER LARGE PREDATOR TYPES.

THIS IS NOT COUNTING THE SAME TYPE OF SIGHTINGS OF "UFOs", SMALL & LARGE GREEN HUMANOIDS, GHOSTS, DEMONS, AND OTHER EQUALLY STRANGE CRITTERS & BEINGS. ALL TURNED OUT TO NOT BE WHAT THE PERSON OR GROUP ACTUALLY OBSERVED. ALL WERE DOMESTIC CATS, DOGS, ^{ALONG WITH} WEASELS & ONE OR TWO COYOTES AS THE CULPITS ^{LIGHTS}

I DOBT VERY MUCH THAT THERE ARE COXFIRMED 7,000 SIGHTINGS OF "FEAL HOGS IN THIS STATE AS OF THE WRITING OF THIS LETTER. KNOWING PEOPLE & HOW THEY WILL SEE "WHAT THEY WANT TO SEE" THAT WHAT IS UNUSUAL OR DIFFERANT, WOULD MAKE ME SURPRISED IF THERE WERE AN ACTUAL COUNT OF 100 CONFIRMED, DOCUMENTED, & EVIDENCED CASES. THE 7,000 SIGHTINGS ARE FALSE WITHOUT THE PROOF AND CAID AND ARE TAKEN AS "SHOCK" INFO FOR THE AVERAGE PERSON TO BELIEVE & GET EXCITED OVER.

MY "RUSSIAN HOGS" DO NOT NOR CAN THEY GET OUT OF THEIR ENCLOSURES. THE FENCING IS BURIED UNDER GROUND & IS 6' HIGH. MY TURNERS ENCLOSURES ARE MORE SECURE THAN MINE ARE & HE HAS NEVER NOR HAVE I HAD A RUSSIAN BOAR ESCAPE. THEY ALL STAY WHERE THEY HAVE FOOD & WATER.

—————>

WHEN SOMEONE MENTIONS A "FERAL HOG" PROBLEM,
 TO ME A DOMESTIC PIG COMES TO MY MIND FIRST. IT,
 THE HOG, IS A TYPICAL PIG, RAISED ON A FARM, GENERALLY
 PINK IN COLOR, THAT HAS BEEN TURNED OUT INTO
 THE WILD TO FEED FOR ITSELF. WHEN THIS OCCURS OVER A
^{NOT}
 A TIME THE HEAD & SNOUT WILL BECOME ELONGATED,
 SHOULDERS WILL APPEAR HEAVIER AND THE REAR
 WILL BECOME SMALLER. ALSO THEY BECOME MUCH MORE
 HARRIER. THIS IS A TRUE FERAL HOG.

A "RUSSIAN BOAR" IS NOT ONE OF THE ABOVE. THEY,
 AS A SPECIE ARE VERY DIFFERENT BUT CAN APPEAR
 SIMILARLY AS THE DOMESTIC GOUTE WILD. A GOOD
 DEFINITION OF "FERAL HOG" IS MUCH NEEDED & SHOULD NOT
 INCLUDE THE RUSSIAN ALONG WITH THE DOMESTIC GOUTE WILD.

I HOPE THIS LETTER IS FOUND TO BE OF INTEREST
 AND OF USE.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

DEP. J. KING FARMER #128 (RET)

OTTAWA COUNTY SHERIFF DEPT.

12195 FROBERG RD.

BARAGA, MI. 49908

TX - 906-353-7505



Michigan Department of Natural Resources – Law Enforcement Division

PRIVATELY OWNED CERVIDAE FACILITY INSPECTION REPORT

Issued under the authority of Executive Order No. 2004-3 and Act 190 of P.A. 2000.
Failure to comply with the requirements of Act 190 may result in fines, imprisonment, or both.

INSPECTION DATE

7-19-04

FACILITY NUMBER

3452136

Owner Name <i>Gregory Johnson</i>		Business/Facility Name <i>Ben Mountain LLC</i>		Class <i>111</i>	
Mailing Address <i>71 N. Basin Dr</i>		Facility Address <i>324 County Road 480</i>			
City, State, ZIP <i>Negaunee, MI 49860</i>		City, State, ZIP <i>Negaunee, MI 49860</i>			
Owner Telephone <i>(906) 475-5007</i>		Facility Telephone <i>(906) 475-9676</i>			
Employee/Representative Name <i>Gregory Johnson</i>		County <i>Margaretta</i>	Township <i>Negaunee</i>	Town <i>47N</i>	Range <i>26W</i>
				Section <i>12</i>	

	Satis-Factory	Unsatis-Factory	Comments
Fence Construction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Condition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ground Edge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ground Level Openings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Height (For Species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gates	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cervidae Records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Animal Identification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fence Inspection Records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Excellent fence! Low electric wire ground inside perimeter discourages swine from digging

Cervidae Species in Facility and Number (Indicate known or estimated)

☒ Whitetail 3 ☐ Fallow Deer ☐ Sika Deer
☐ Elk ☐ Reindeer ☐ Red Deer
☐ Other

Additional Comments/Summary of Deficiencies

Swine and Corsican Rams are also present at the facility

☐ Re-Inspection Required

Re-Inspection Date and Time:

Inspection Team (print name) <i>Mark Hoffman</i> <i>Michael Koss</i>	Inspection Team Signatures <i>Mark Hoffman</i> <i>Michael Koss</i>	Owner Signature <i>Gregory Johnson</i>
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DISTRIBUTION:

White – Inspection Team Canary – Facility Owner Pink – DNR Conservation Officer Goldenrod – DNR WLD Facility File

R9012 (05/26/2004)

PRIVATELY OWNED CERVIDAE FACILITY INSPECTION REPORT

Issued under the authority of Executive Order No. 2004-3 and Act 190 of P.A. 2000.
Failure to comply with the requirements of Act 190 may result in fines, imprisonment, or both.

INSPECTION DATE 12-4-08
FACILITY NUMBER 34521136

Owner Name Gregory A. Johnson		Business/Facility Name Bear Mountain		Class Reindeer	
Mailing Address 91 North Basin Drive		Facility Address 324 County Road 4E0			
City, State, ZIP Negaunee, Mich 49866		City, State, ZIP Negaunee, Mich 49866			
Owner Telephone 906-475-9676		Facility Telephone 906-475-9616			
Employee/Representative Name Greg Johnson		County Manistee	Township Negaunee	Town 47N	Range 29W
				Section 36	

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Comments
Fence Construction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellent
Material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Condition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ground Edge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ground Level Openings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Height (For Species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Gates	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 Single Gate
Cervidae Records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Animal Identification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fence Inspection Records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellent

Cervidae Species in Facility and Number (Indicate known or estimated)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Whitetail	6	<input type="checkbox"/> Fallow Deer		<input type="checkbox"/> Sika Deer	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elk	6	<input type="checkbox"/> Reindeer		<input type="checkbox"/> Red Deer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other					

Additional Comments/Summary of Deficiencies

one of the best seen
just a single gate

☐ Re-Inspection Required

Re-Inspection Date and Time:

Inspection Team (print name) Mike Haen Damien Cunningham	Inspection Team Signatures Mike Haen Damien Cunningham	Owner Signature Greg Johnson
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DISTRIBUTION:

White - Inspection Team

Canary - Facility Owner

Pink - DNR Conservation Officer

Goldenrod - DNR WLD Facility File

R9012 (05/26/2004)

From: Michael Brunner
To: Frank, Nancy; Kennedy, Rebecca; m-brunner@sbcglobal.net
Date: 7/31/2007 12:21:13 PM
Subject: Re: Bear Mountain Lodge in Negaunee in Marquette County - Feral Swine Issue

Dr. Frank,

On July 26, 2007 Commissioner Ann Jousma- Miller and I visited the Bear Mountain Lodge wild boar hunting facility owned by Greg Johnson. Mr. Johnson was most cooperative in allowing us to do a thorough evaluation of his operation.

In 2006 Mr. Johnson imported three groups of full grown swine from Davis Point Game Farm in Canada. They were imported as follows:

March 21, 2006.....44 head

May 17, 2006.....50 head

December 19, 2006....42 head

For each of these imports we were shown the import records and health certificates. The papers were appropriately filled out and the pigs were properly identified with two different ear tags. The swine were tested for brucellosis prior to entry. They were not tested for pseudorabies, as Canada is pseudorabies free.

Mr. Johnson has not had post entry pseudorabies testing done on these pigs, but has agreed to collect blood for pseudorabies testing on his imported pigs as they are killed by hunters in the future. No pigs leave this facility alive.

Mr. Johnson did not import swine from Canada in 2007, but he plans to do so in the future. In addition to importing boars from Canada, he also buys boars from people who raise them in Upper Michigan.

We also inspected the entire fence on this facility. Since this facility also encloses deer, the fence is 10 feet tall and is made entirely of woven wire. The land inside the entire fence is completely cleared back by about 50 feet or more. The fence was tight to the ground and in good repair. To ensure that the pigs do not burrow under, Mr Johnson has an electric fence attached to the inside of the primary fence (see photos). This electric fence appears to be very effective, as we saw no evidence of any digging near the fence and no evidence of any escapes. Mr. Johnson said there has never been an escape from inside his fence.

This appears to be a "first class" operation where all of the little things are done right. As a result, Mr. Johnson has sold between 1000 and 1500 boar hunts in the past four years. He employs about 12 guides, and hunters come from throughout the Country to experience boar hunting at this facility.

>>> Rebecca Kennedy 7/12/2007 9:45 AM >>>
Dr Brunner,

Per our conversation, thank you for taking the following work assignment regarding Bear Mountain Lodge in Negaunee in Marquette County - Feral Swine Issue.

Please note that the due date is Thursday, August 2, 2007.

Please contact Dr Remick with any questions.

Once you have completed the assignment, please do a "Reply to All" on this email with a narrative of the results of your visit.

Thank you,
Beki

**Greg Johnson
dba Bear Mountain LLC
Negaunee MI**

Epidemiologic Investigation

Completed by Colleen Bruning-Fann, DVM, MS, ACVPM (Epi)
USDA APHIS, VS Area Epidemiology Officer, Michigan

On October 22, I visited Bear Mountain LLC accompanied by Dr. Mike Brunner, field veterinarian with the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA). The purpose of my visit was to investigate this premises in regards to pseudorabies infection. During my visit, Dr. Lori Harms, field veterinarian with USDA, APHIS, VS collected blood samples from 16 live Russian-type swine.

Bear Mountain LLC is a game hunting operation with Russian-type swine, elk, white-tailed deer, and Corsican sheep. The premises consists of approximately 100 acres of land and a lodge for housing the guests. The animals are kept in a large fenced-in area. The fence is woven wire approximately 10 feet high. To prevent swine from digging out of the enclosure, an electrified wire (hot wire) is strung on the inside of the enclosure approximately 12 inches from the woven wire. This wire is kept electrified except when the snow becomes deep enough to cover the wire (winter).

During my visit, Greg Johnson and I inspected the entire extent of the fence from outside of the enclosure. The fence appeared in very good condition with no evidence of swine burrowing under the fence. Areas where swine had "rooted" or created wallows were seen on the inside of the enclosure but stopped before reaching the "hot wire". It appears that the electrified wire is sufficient to discourage swine from digging near the fence. No evidence of swine such as digging or wallows were seen on the outside of the fence. Numerous cloven-hoofed prints were seen outside of the enclosure on the periphery of the fence but I was not able to determine if they were swine or deer prints.

According to Mr. Johnson, Dr. Brunner, and all the records I examined, all swine at Bear Mountain LLC were either imported from Canada or born in the enclosure. As Canada is considered pseudorabies free, swine imported from Canada were not tested for pseudorabies. Documentation does show the premises of origin for all Canadian swine. No swine were added after 3/31/08. According to the records I viewed, Mr. Johnson is buying high-priced swine. In discussion with Dr. Harms, she stated that all the swine she has seen appear to be Russian-type with a similar appearance.

Starting in June of 2008, Mr. Johnson has been collecting blood from hunter-killed swine for pseudorabies and brucellosis testing. Examination of the results of this testing shows that between June 10, 2008 and September 3, 2008, 23

Negaunee Township

"A Community on the Grow"

42 State Highway M-35 Negaunee MI 49866

Telephone (906)475-7869 Fax 906 475 5071



July 25, 2007

ATTACHMENT 3

Greg Johnson
91 N Basin Dr
Negaunee MI 49866

Dear Mr. Johnson

I am writing in support of Bear Mountain Lodge located in our township. Since it began operation in 2002, we have had no complaints filed regarding the operation of the hunt site. In fact, many compliments have been received regarding the wonderful experiences hunters have had at Bear Mountain.

The concerns expressed by neighbors, hunters and non-hunters before the business opened were addressed at "good neighbor" meetings as well as our Planning Commission and Township Board meetings to the satisfaction of all. We are happy to report there have no complaints or concerns expressed regarding Bear Mountain Lodge and we are very happy to have this hunting opportunity in our township.

I wish you continued success in your operation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Wayne Johnson, Supervisor
Negaunee Township

Negaunee Township

"A Community on the Grow"

42 State Highway M-35 Negaunee MI 49866

Telephone (906)475-7869 Fax 906 475 5071



May 20, 2009

Greg Johnson
91 N Basin Dr
Negaunee MI 49866


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I wish you continued success in your operation.

Sincerely,


William Carlson, Supervisor
Negaunee Township

Negaunee Township



MICHAEL H. LOVELACE
MARQUETTE COUNTY SHERIFF

JACK L. SCHNEIDER
UNDERSHERIFF

236 West Baraga Avenue ♦ Marquette, Michigan 49855
(906) 225-8435 ♦ FAX: (906) 225-8485

May 21, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter regarding Greg Johnson and Bear Mountain Lodge, which is his business located in my county.

I have known Greg for over 15 years as an outstanding citizen and very professional business owner/operator through both his Charter Fishing Business and Bear Mountain Lodge.

The purpose of this letter is to state that there is not, and has not been, a problem with Feral Swine in our county. We have not received any calls for service or complaints of Feral Swine in our office.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any concerns, questions or issues regarding this matter. I can be reached during normal business hours at 906-225-8437 (W), after hours, weekends, and holidays at 906-485-4269 (H) and any other time on my mobile phone at 906-458-8882.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Lovelace
Sheriff